



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 14, 1998

H.R. 3824

An act amending the Fastener Quality Act to exempt from its coverage certain fasteners approved by the Federal Aviation Administration for use in aircraft

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on July 9, 1998

H.R. 3824 would amend existing law regarding the regulation of fasteners. The act would direct the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to submit a report to the Congress by February 1, 1999, on trends in manufacturing fasteners, on other programs that regulate fasteners, and on legislative changes that may be needed to reflect current conditions. Implementation of NIST's regulations on fasteners would be delayed until June 1, 1999, or 120 days after submission of the report, whichever is later. Under this legislation, fasteners made for aircraft would be exempt from those regulations if the suitability and quality of the fasteners have been approved by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Based on information provided by the agency, CBO estimates that NIST would spend about \$200,000 in 1999 to complete the study required by H.R. 3824, assuming appropriation of the necessary funds. Because H.R. 3824 would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

H.R. 3824 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

On May 21, 1998, CBO transmitted an estimate of H.R. 3824 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Science on May 13, 1998. The House version would not require NIST to report on other programs that regulate fasteners; therefore, CBO estimated that NIST would spend only about \$100,000 in 1999 to complete the study.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Hadley. This estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.